







THE  
RARE AND MOST VVON-  
DERFVLL THINGS WHICH

Edvard V Vebbe an Englishman borne,  
hath seene and passed in his troublesome tra-  
uailes, in the cities of Ierusalem, Damas ko,  
Bethlemand Galely: and in the lands  
of Iewrie, Egypt, Grecia, Russia,  
and Presler Iohn.

VVherein is set forth his extreame slauerie  
sustained many yeares together in the Gallies  
and vvarres of the great Turke, against the  
lands of Persia, Tartaria, Spaine, and  
Portugale, vvith the manner of  
his releasement and com-  
ming into England in  
May last.



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TO THE MOST MIGHTY,  
MY GRATIOVS AND RENOW-

ned Soueraigne, *Elizabeth* by the grace  
of God Queene of England, France,  
and Ireland, defender of  
*the faith, &c.*

YOVR HIGHNESSE MOST HUM-  
ble subiect *Edward Webbe*, heartily prayeth for  
the continuance of your Maiesties  
health and prosperous raigne  
*to the woldes end.*



Onsidering (most Gracious and dread  
Soueraigne) the wonderfull proui-  
dence of Almighty God shewed to-  
wards your Highnesse since the time  
of your most happie and prosperous  
raigne, aswell in the preservation of  
your Maiesties person from the hands of your High-  
nesse enemies, as also in defending this small Angle or  
Realme of England from the force of forraine foes,  
and the continuall blessings of peace and plentie, with  
which euer since he hath in bountifull sort maintai-  
ned it: I could not therefore but (according to my  
dutie) render humble thanks to almighty God  
for the same, when to my great comfort, euen in the  
middest of my greuous thraldome in Turkey, I  
heard it most truelie reported by a Christian cap-

## The Epistle Dedicatory.

ture, and your Highnesse clemencie by him highly  
commended. The report of whose fame truly descri-  
bed, aswell in the administration of Iustice, and sup-  
porting of Christian religion, as also in releeuing and  
succouring the poore distressed members of this land,  
gaue me iust cause to pray hartily for my deliuey, and  
to long inwardly vntill I came to see your Highnesse  
(my dread Soueraigne) and this my native Country.  
And now hauing obtained my long expected wish, I  
do in all humblenesse prostrate my selfe, and this  
plaine discourse of my trauels to your most excellent  
Maiestie: wherein may be seene, that if in Turkie I  
would haue denyed my Christ, or in my traile would  
haue forsaken my Prince to haue serued for Spaine,  
thereby to haue become a traitour to your Maiestie  
and my native Countrie, I needed not to haue liued  
in want, but in great prosperitie: but forasmuch as  
almightie God hath now sent me free from thraldome  
and deliuered me from many dangers, and sent me in-  
to England, my desire is that I may be imployed in  
such seruice and affaires, as may be pleasing to God  
and found profitable to my Prince and Country. And  
thus trusting your Highnes will accept in good worth  
this true discourse though rudelie penned I humbly  
take my leaue, praying for the prosperous health and  
continual raigae of your most excellent Maiestie.

*Your Highnesse humble subject,*

*Edward Webbe.*





## The Epistle to the Reader.



Wise Reader, I haue undertaken in this shorthe discourse, to utter the moste part of such things as I saue and passed in the time of my troublesome traualle and slauish life sustained in the Gallies, and warres of the great Turke.

And this I do protest, that in this booke there is nothing mentioned or expessed but that which is of truth, and what mine owne eyes haue per'cayp scene. Some foolish persons perhaps will canill and say, that these are lies and fained fables, and that it containeth nothing else: but to those I answere, that whatsoeuer is herent mentioned, he whosoever he be, that shall so finde faulte and doubt of the trueth hereof, let him but make inquirie of the best and greatest travellers and Merchants about all this land: and they doubtlesse will resolve them that it is true which is here expessed: with a great deale more, which now I cannot call to remembrance, for that my memory sayleth me, by meanes of my great and grievous troubles. From my lodging at Black-wall, this sixteenth of May. 1590.

Your louing Countrey man,  
Edward Webbe,



Verles written vpon the Alphabet of the  
Queenes maiesties name.

E uerall God be guide to fill your grace,  
L et giue you life in heal. b and happie states  
I nspire your sub. d's hearts in euery place,  
Z ealous in lene and free from secret hate,  
A nd shorten life in those that breed debate,  
B ehold her Lord, who is our strength and stay,  
E ven be it is, by whom we hold our owe;  
T urne not thy face from her in any way,  
F lew downe her foes and let them all be knowe.

R enowned Queene your highnesse subiectes ioy,  
E uen for to see the fall of all your foes,  
G od of his mercie shield you from annoy,  
I ntending reasons still for to disclose,  
N om of vs all but will most due pray,  
A lmightie God preserve you night and day.

FINIS.

Your loving Countryman  
Edward W. Cope







Edward Webbe an Englishman, borne at Saint Kathermans nere the towre of London, was the sonne of one Richard Webb maister gunner of England, my father hauing some naturall affection to me, when I was but xij. yeares old, did preferre me to the service of captaine Jenkenson, at such time as he was sent ambassadour into Russia, with whom I went by sea and vpon him I was daily attendant: in which my iourney, I was conuerfant among the people of that cuntry which were appa-relled like to the Turkes and Tartarians, with furde caps and long garments downe to their shynnes: much like to Carbines or Horsemen readie to the warre. Where I made my abode some space in the head citie of Russia called Musko, in which their building is all of kere, except the Emperors court, which is of lime and stone. They execute very sharpe laws among themselves, and are a kinde of tyrannous people as appeareth by their customes, of which among many other, these I specially noted. viz. that if any man be indebted one to another, and doth not make payment at his day and time appointed: the officers may enter vpon the debtors and forcerably breake downe their houses, and imprison them in grieuous sort: where iudgement shall presently passe against him, which is with a mallet of wood he shall haue so many blowes on the shynnes or on the forehead as the Judge shall award: & this punishment shall be inflicted sundry dayes vpon him. The Turkes also I seeth to beate debtors with a mallet, but not in that sort, for in Turkey they are beaten for debt vpon the soles of the fete with a cane or cudgel if payment be not made by a day. I also noted, that if any nobleman offend the Emperoy of Russia,

## VVebbe his trauailes.

the said Noble man is taken and imprisoned with all his children & kinsfolkes, and the first great frost that cometh (for the country is wonderfull colde and subiect to frosts) there is a great hole made in the Ice ouer some great river, and then the partie principall is first put in, and after him his wife, his children, and all other his kinsfolks, and so leaue none of his posterity to possesse his lands or goods but the same are bestowed vpon others at the Emperors pleasure. There I stayed thre yeres attendant on my Father, in which time the crym-Tartarians otherwise named the new Christians, made war vpon the said city of Pusk, which soone after was betrayed & speedily burned, the people in great aboundance massacred, and the Tartarian souldiers had wonderfull riche spoiles in the same: there was I at that time withseauen other Englishmen taken prisoners, and for slaues were altogether conuayed to Cassa, where the king of the Tartarians abideth and keepeth a statelie court: being conueied thither we were set to wipe the feet of y<sup>e</sup> kings hozles, & to become ordinarie slaues in the said court, to fetch water, cleane wood, & to do such other drudgerie. There were we beaten thre times a weeke with a Bulls pissell, or a hozle taile. And in this sozt and miserable seruitude we stayed there flue yeres, then were we ransomed from thence by our friends where we paid every man thre hundred crownes which is seuen shillings six pence a peece, of currant English money. Among that people called the Tartarians, I noted specially this one thing, y<sup>e</sup> their children being new borne, do neuer open their eyes untill they be nine dayes and nine nights olde. Thus being ransomed as is aforesaid, I returned home into England, where hauing staid some small time, I wet againe into Russia in the Hart of marter Kings at Ratcliffe with thirtie saile of ships more in our company, at which time her Maesties ship called the Willoughby was our Admirall, and the Harry ap-  

pertaining

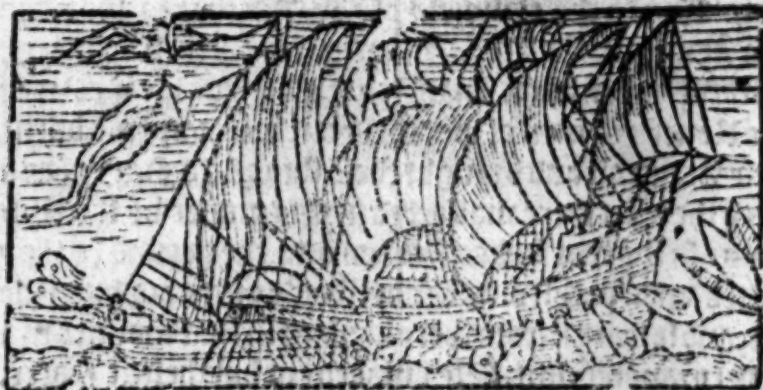


## V V ebbe his trauailes.

pertaining to the company of the Marchants was our  
bize Admirall, Master William Burrow then being our  
captaine and master. In which our voyage we met with  
sue Houers of men of warre whom we set open, & burnt  
their Admirall and brought those ships into Parre, and  
there the men were massacred in this manner by the Rus-  
sians: first great stakes stoken into the ground, & they  
spitted upon poles, as a man would put a pig upon the  
spit, and so leauen score were handled in that manner in a  
very tyzannous sort. We unladed our burthen at Parre,  
& toke in other lading for our commodities, but the ship  
wherin I was which was called the Hart, having sailed  
but twelue miles from thence, struck upon a rock, wher-  
by the ship and goods were lost, the residue of the flete  
had no harme, & all the men in our ship saued their liues  
by taking them into the boat of the said ship.

By meanes of which ship so cast away, I lost all that  
I had, and then came againe into England, and gathered  
a new stocke, & in the Henric of London I went to Le-  
uanta alias Legorne. This ship called the Henric, had  
bene solde before to Doctor Hector, and other Ita'ian  
Marchants, which was unknowne vnto us so that at our  
coming to Legorne the ship was sealed on by the factors  
of those that were the owners thereof, and by them laden  
with marchandise to Alexandria, in which ship my selfe  
was master gunner.

But here fortune began to lower on me againe, and  
turne her wheele in such sort against me, as that I was  
sone after brought to liue in greater slavery, then euer  
I did before, for we hauing safely arriued at Alexandria, dis-  
charged our burthen: and fraught our ship with great  
store of that countrie commodities, and returning backe to  
Legorne, sodenly in the way, we met with fiftie saile of  
the Turkes Gallies: with which Gallies we fought two  
daies & two nightes, and made great slaughter amongst  
their



their men, we beeing in all but threescore men very weake  
for such a multitude, and hauing lost fiftie of our 60. men  
faintnes constrained vs to yeld vnto them, by reason we  
wanted winde to helpe our selues, and the calme was so  
greate a helpe vnto them, as there was no way for vs to  
escape. Thus did the Turkes take the ship & goods, and in  
the same sound ten of vs liuing whom they toke prisoners  
and presently stripped vs naked, & giue vs 100 blowes a  
peece with an Ore Pissell, for presuming to fight against  
them. Then were we sent to Constantinople, & committed  
vnto the Gallies, where we continued the space of  
six yeares: the manner of our vslage there was thus.

First, we were shauen head and face, and then a thert of  
Cotten and breeches of the same put vpon vs: our legges  
and feete left naked: and by one of the feete is each flane  
chained with a great chaine to the Gally, and our hands  
fastned with a paire of Manacles. The fode which I and  
others did eate was very black, far worse then Hozsbread:  
& our drinke was stinking water, vnlesse it be when we  
come to the places where we toke in fresh swete water,  
whilch time we supposed our diet to be very daintie.

Thus as I said befoze, I remained six yeates in this  
miserable estate, wonderfully beaten & misused every day:  
there haue I scene of my fellows when they haue bene so  
weake as they could not rowe by reason of sicknesse and  
faintnes:



## V Vebbe his trauailes.

saintnes: where the Turkes would lay vpon them as vpon  
on Horses, and beate them in such sort, as oft times they  
died, and then threw them into the Sea.

Thus seeing my selfe still to continue in this miserable  
state, I was constrained for want of victuals, to discover  
my selfe and to shew them that I had good skill in Gunners  
Art, which I thought would haue bin greatly well este-  
med at the Turkes hands: but then for the same I was  
more narrowly looked vnto, yet somewhat better esteemed  
of, then I was before. Not long after the Turke made  
warres against the Persians, and gathered 700 thousand  
men together, and these were choiced by his theise Bala-  
sars into Persia. At which time (for that I had skill in  
Artillery) I was chosen forth of the Gallies, to goe with  
the Army into Persia, and there to doe the Turke ser-  
uice in the field, with whom I traueled on foote, but in our  
going thither, there dyed of our Army, by meanes of  
great sickness, diet, and want of victuals, about the num-  
ber of thirtie thousand: so that when we came into Per-  
cia, we were foure thousand strong in the field, there we  
rested vs one moneth, by which time we hauing barte-  
ned our selues, gaue a fierce assault vpon the Persians,  
where the Turkes side got the worst, and lost 60 thousand  
men. Then the Generall ouer the Turkes Army, whose  
name was Sanon Balhasent vs so many souldiers more  
as made vs fifty thousand strong, there we stayed a long  
time, making warres against the Persians and the great  
City of Damasco, where the Turke little preuailed: for if  
the Turke were as politticke as he is strong of power the  
Persians were not able to resist him. Thus leaving the  
Turkes Army in Percia, we came thorow Damasco to  
our Citty called the great Caer, which Citty is threescore  
miles in compasse, and is the greatest Citty in the world,  
it standeth vpon the riuier of Euphrates. And in the sayd Citty  
there is twelue thousand Churches which they terme Mos-

## V Vebbe his trauailes.

rots. This citty at all times keepeth fortie thousand men continually in souldiers pay, and are ready at one bowers warning to serue vnder the great Turke: there we staied to see the cutting or parting of the Riuier of Nil: which is done once every yere, vpon the 25 day of August. This Citty standeth in the land of Egypt, and is vnder the gouernment of the great Turke. And there is a King ouer the said Citty, who is called the king of the great Caer, & is the Vice Key or Liefetenant to the great Turke, & he is then present at the cutting of this riuier of Nil: at which time there is a great triumph, and every Colone & Country round about, to the valew of a thousand mile, send gifts and presents to the King of the great Caer, in consideration of the water which cometh to them from that Riuier of Nil, by meanes of the cutting of it, which is but once every yere.

It is therefore to be knowne, that in the land of Egypt it raineth not at all, and all the ground throughout the land of Egypt is continually watered by the water which vpon the 25. day of August is turned into the countries round about, by meanes of the wonderfull growing and swelling of the water spright without any stay at all, on one side thereof to the height of a huge mountaine, which becometh to increase the 15 day of August, and by the 25. of August is at the highest, on which day it is cut, by diuiding of two pillars in a strange sort, nere to the city of the great Caer, and so turned as off from a great mountaine into the land of Egypt: by meanes whereof the Turke holds all the land of Egypt in subiection to himselfe, and might if he would dismisse them cleane from hauing any water at all.

From thence I went with the Turkes power and vnder his conduction to the land of Iewry, and from thence to the city of Ierusalem, where part of the olde Temple is yet standing, and many monuments of great antiquitie,



## V Vebbe his trauailes.

as herchafter shal be shewed. In the land of Siria, there is a river that no Jew can get or catch any fish in it at al, and yet in the same river there is great scoze of fish like vnto Samon Troutes. But let a Christian or a Turke come thither and fish for them, & either of them shall catch them in great abundance, if they doe but put their hand into the water with a little bread, and an hundredth will be about his hand.

Thus hauing seene a number of rare and most wonderful things, we went to the citie of Agowa, which is the head and chiefe city in all the East Indies, there we gaue battell against the Christians who keepe the said city, which are Portugallies, for that the towne appertaineth to the King of Portugall. There we gaue battell & lost twenty thousand of the great Turkes men, and yet could not obtaine it; neuertheles the great Turke Lieutenant or General with his power, toke a place called Armons, where they had great scoze of treasure and hoises of silver.

Thus being chiefe maister Gunner in these Turkish warres, I was sent for againe by commandement of the Turke to Damasco, where I staid all that winter with twentie thousand men. And from thence made pcurssion to make wars against the land of prestre John, who is by profession a Christian. In this land of prestre John, when it doth raime, it continueth at the least one whole moneth. And in the gran Caer, there is a plague once in euery seventh yere, which cometh with such a fiercenes, that the most part of all the people there do die of the said plague: and people in great numbers lose their eye sight with the vapours and great heat which cometh from the ground.

I remember one battaille which the Admirall of the great Turke named Ally Batha, made with thre scoze Gallies, & seized vpon a towne where the said Ally Batha was borne himselfe, named Trybulas, which is in the conffines of Calabria, and vnder the gouernement of  
the

## V Webb his trauailes.

The King of Spaine, at which towne he landed his arme  
an houre before day, thinking to haue take it by treason:  
and then in great fury scaled the wals with ladders:  
but the watch betwixted vs, and on a sodaine, cried Arme,  
arme, which was sone done: for euery man took him to  
his toles & weapons of defence. But it is worthy of me-  
mory, to see how the women of that towne did pise them-  
selues with their weapons, making a great massacre vpon  
our men, and murdered 500 of them in such speede and  
furious sort as is wonderfull: we needed not to haue fea-  
red their men at all, had not the women bin our greatest  
ouerthrow, at which time I my selfe was maister Gun-  
ner of the Admirals Gallie, perchauned greuously, & bea-  
ten rickes with a Turkish Arrow flatling, for not thrusting  
where they would haue me, & where I could not shote.

It is but a few years since, that in the cite of Constantinople,  
there happened a great plague, where there dyed  
in fire more the space, seauen hundred thousand persons,  
at which time Master Harbaric Ambassador for the  
Turke company was there, & lost sundry of his seruants.

From Damaſco we went into the land of preſter John  
who is a Chriſtian, and is called Chriſtion de Sencour:  
that is, the Chriſtian of the Gerbell: againſt this Preſter  
John, I went with the Turkes power, and was then  
their maister Gunner in the field, the number of Turkish  
Souldiers sent thither, was five hundred thousand men,  
who went thither by land, and pitched themselves in bat-  
tallie ray at Saran, nere to the place where the sonne of  
Preſter John keepeth his Court. Where Preſter John  
with his power, flew off the Turkes to the number of fiftie  
thousand, onely by pollicie of false Bridges to keepe with  
water, made as secret places by which passage in which  
water so many Turkes perished. The next day following,  
the Turkes power did incompaſſe Preſter Johns citie  
and took him prisoner, and sent him for a prisoner to the  
great



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great Turkes Courte then being at Constantinople, but  
sone after, Pesser John himselfe made an agreement be-  
twene the great Turke and his sonne, that the one should  
not demaund tribute of the other, and so his sonne was re-  
leased and sent home againe.

This Pesser John of whom I spake before, is a king  
of great power, and keepeth a very bountifull Court, after  
the fashion of that Country, and hath every day to serue  
him at his Table 60. Kings, wearing leaden Crownes  
on their heads, and these serue in the meate vnto Pesser  
Johns Table: and continually the first dish of meate set  
vpon his Table, is a dead mans skull cleane picked and laide  
in blacke earth, putting him in minde that he is but earth  
and must die. These 60 Kings are all his High Ropes in  
seuerall places, and they haue their deputies to supply their  
romes, and these Kings liue continually in Pesser Johns  
Court, and go no farther then they may be still attendant  
vpon him, without leaue from their Emperour Pesser  
John.

In the court of Pesser John, there is a wilde man, and  
an other in the high Strate at Constantinople, whose al-  
lowance is every day a quarter of rawutton: and when  
any man dyeth for some notorious offence, then are they al-  
lowed every day a quarter of mans flesh. These wilde men  
are chained fast to a poste every day, the one in Pesser  
Johns court, and the other in the high Strate of Constans-  
tinople, each of them hauing a Mantell cast about their  
Shoulders, and all ouer their bodies they haue wonderfull  
long haire, they are chained fast by the neck, and will speede-  
ly deuoure any man that cometh in their reach.

There



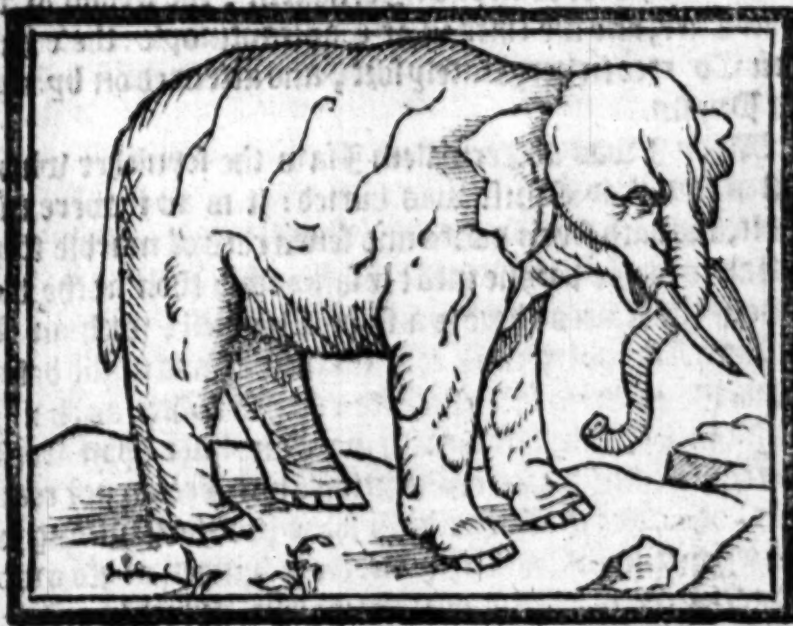
There is a beaſt in the court of Preſter John, called Artians, hauing ſoure heads they are in ſhape like a wilde Cat, and are of the height of a Waſtie Curre.

In this court alſo there is fowles called Pharoes fowles, whoſe feathers are very beautifull to be woome, theſe fowles are as big as a Turkey, their fleſh is very ſweete, and their feathers of all manner of colours.

There is Swannes in that place, which are as large againe as the Swans of England, and their feathers are as blew as any blew cloth.



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I haue bene in a place like a Parke adieyning vnto Pre-  
 ser Johns Court, three hore and seauentene Unicornes  
 and Diphants all alive at one time, and they were so tame  
 that I haue played with them as one would playe with  
 young Lambes.

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## V Vebbe his trauailes.

When Prester John is serued at his table, there is no salt at all set on in any saltseller as in other places, but a lease of bread is cut crosse, and then two knives are layde a crosse vpon the lease, and seme salte put vpon the blades of the knives and no more.

Being thus in the lande of Prester John, I trauailed withineightene degrees of the Sunne, euery degree being in distance thre score miles.

I was at the Red sea, at the place where Moises made passage with his wand for the chyl'dren of Israell, where I sawe a shippe called the graund Maria, she dyawes but ff. fete water, and against this shippe thre score Gallies and shippes haue fought at one time and cannot conquer her: and this is vnder the gouernement of the great Turke.

I haue bene in the Courts of the thre great Patriarkes, the first whereof is kept at Ierusalem, the second at the gran Caer, and the third is at Constantinople: these haue their Co: rtes in very stately sort, and attended on by none but Priests.

When I was at Ierusalem I saw the sepulcher where in it is said that Chyist was buried: it is as it were in a vault, and hath seven doores and seven roes of marble steps or staires to goe downe into the same, and then at the bottom of the staires there is a faire Chappell, with an Altar and a Lampe burning continually day and night before it, and the grane is full of a hite earth so white as chalke, and a tombe of the same earth made and laide vpon stone, whercon are summe letters written, but I could not reade them. The great Turke hath some profite conning by the keeping thereof, and hath therefore builded at his owne charges an Hospitall within Ierusalem, which his Generaries doe kepe: and this Hospitall is to receiue all Pilgrims and trauailers to lodge in when soener they come. And all that come to see the sepulchre doe pay ten Crownes a peece, whereof the Turke hath but one, and the rest goes



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to the Church, and so they may stay there as long as they list to lodge in that new Hospita'l. and haue lodging, bread, viuals and water so long as they will remaine there, but no wine: such as come thither for pilgrims haue no beds at all, but lie vpon the ground on turkei Carpets, and before the sepulcher of Christ there is masse sayd euerie day, & none may say the masse there, but a man that is a pure virgin: there was one that dyed while I was there, that daily saide and sung masse before the sepulcher, and he was an hundred and thirtie yeares of age before his death, and now another is in his roome, but whether the old man that dead is, or this which is now in the place to sing and say the saide Masse, were pure virgins I know not, but sure I dare not sweare for them, because they be men, and fleshy and blond as other are.

After that I had thus long trauailed and spent my time in the warres and affaires of the great Turke, I was returned againe to Constantinople, where at my arrivall a penny loose of English sterling money, was worth a crowne of gold, such was the sickness, misery, and dearth then vpon the said city, and happy was he that so could get bread to eat. Nevertheless, because I was a Christian, and for that the Turke had no cause presently to vse me in my office of gunnership, I was there imprisoned, where I found two thousand Christians bind vp in stone walls lockt fast in yron chaines, grievously pinched, with extreme penury, and such as wished death rather then in such misery to live: amongst these was I placed, and tooke parte with them according y<sup>e</sup> greewing at my hard hap that the warres had not ented me before I came thither.

Thus I remained there with the rest, garded and daily watched, that we could stir no manner of way, there we were suffered to worke vpon any manner of trade or occupation wherein we were any way expert: and what we did or made, we sold to the Turkes, and they gaue vs mo-

## V V ebbe his trauailes.

ney for the same: and thus were we suffered to worke vntill it were time to goe and gather snowe, which is threblede pearly of custome to be gathered: for the Turke hath great summes of money payde him for the sayde snowe, which is gathered and solde to his subjects for a penny the pound, which pound, is two pound and a halfe English: and this snowe they vse only to coole their drinke in the sommer season. And no man may sell any snowe vntill the Turke hath solde all his.

Thus liuing in this slavish life as is aforesaid, diuerse of vs were plotted and hammered in our heads how we might procure our releasement: whereupon I attempted with the consent of fve hundred Christians, fellow slaues with my selfe, to breake a wall of fourtene fote broad, made of earth, lyme, and sand, which we greatly moistened with strong Aunger, so that the wall being made moist therewith through the helpe of a spike of yron, fve hundred of vs had almost escaped out of prison: but looke what shall be, shall be, and what God wil haue, shall come to passe and no more, as appeareth by vs, for we hauing made meanes for our speedie flight, as we were issuing forth, we were bewrayed by the barking of a dog, which caused the Turkes to arise, and they taking vs with the manner, stopped vs from flying away, and gaue vs in recompence of our paines taking herein, seauen hundred blowes a peere with a Bris pissell vpon the naked skinne, viz. thre hundred on the belly, and foure hundred on the back.

Thus lying still prisoner in the Turkes dungeons, it pleased God to lend thether for the releasement of me and others, a worthy gentleman of this land, named Maister Harborne, Ambassadour thether for the company of Marchants, who to the great honour of England did becheue him else was doctall wisely, and was a speciall meane for the releasement of me and sundrie other English captiues, who were set at libertie same after the death of the great Balha:



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Thus by the meanes of the said master Harborne I was set free from thraldome, and by him sent into England where I arrived on the first of May. 1589.

Whilst I was remaining prisoner in Turkey, and kept in such slavish manner as is before rehearsed, the great Turke had his faine circuncised, which was the fore-skin of his priuy members was taken off, at which time there was great triumphes and free libertie proclaimed for a hundred dayes space, that any Nobleman, gentleman, traveller, Christian or other, might freely (without being molested) come and see the triumphes there used, which were wonderfull: I my selfe was there constrained to make a cunning peece of fire worke framed in forme like to the Arke of Noe, being 24. yardes high, and eight yardes broad, wherein was placed 40. men drawn on six wheeles, yet no man scene, but seemed to goe alone, as though it were surely drawn by two fierie Dragons, in which the Arke there was 13. thou. and severall peeces of fire worke.

At the same time that I was released, there were set at libertie about twentie English men, whereof I was one of the last: some of them are at this present in England. My selfe and others were released by meanes of her Maies ties honorable letters, sent to the great Turke, brought by the foresaid Master Harborne: some by the rare some money gathered at sundry times by the Merchants in the Citty of London, for that goodly purpose: of which, some of their names that were released were these. Humad Han, John Gere, John Wand, Andrew Pullins, Edward Buggins and others.

Here may the beautifull Citizens of London see (as in a glasse) the fruites of their liberalitie and charitable deuotion given at severall times in the peate towarde the releasement of poore captives, such as are constrained to abide most wilde and grieuous tortures, especially the torture and torment of conscience which troubled me and all true Christians

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Stands to the very lowle: for the Turke by all meanes possible would still perswade me and other my fellow Chistians while I was there the time of thirtie peares, to forsake Christ, to deny him, and to beleue in their God Mahomet: which if I would haue done, I might haue had wonderfull preferment of the Turke, and haue liued in as great felicitie as any lord in that countrey: but I utterly denyed their request, though by them grievously beaten naked for my labour, and reviled in most detestable sorte, calling me hogge, dill, helbound, and such like names: but I giue God thanks he gave me strength to abide with patience: the crosses, And though I were but a simple man void of learning, yet still I had in remembrance that Christ dyed for me, as appeareth by the holy Scriptures, and that Christ therein saith: He that denyeth me before men, I will deny him before my father which is in heauen: and againe he saith: Who soeuer beleueth on me shall be saved, and haue life euerlasting. This comfort made me resolute, that I would rather suffer all the torments of death in the worlde, then to denye my Saviour and Redeemer Christ Iesus.

After my free libertie graunted in Turkey, I intending my iourney towardes England, came by land to Venice, where I met at Padua thirtie Englishmen students, I met also with an English man, who liued in the state of a frier, he brought me before the high Bishoppe, where I was accused for an heretike, and he brought in two false witnesses to be sworn against me (hauing before knowne me in Turkey) neuertheless I disproved his witnesses, and they were found forswornemen, then was I set at libertie, and constrained to give fiftene Crownes towards the finishing our Ladies hymne at Padua: and my accuser and his witnesses punished.

From thence I came to the Duke of Ferrara, where I was well entertained and liberally rewarded with a  
house



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 horse and five and twentie Crownes for the sake of the  
 Quenes Maieste of England.



From thence with my passport, I came to Bolony in  
 Italy, where I met with a popish Bishop being an Eng-  
 lishman which helped me great friendship, he is called  
 Dodo: Dele: from thence to Florence, there I met with  
 an English gentleman named maister John Stabler. And  
 from thence I went to Rome, there I was nineteene daies  
 in

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intrauile with the Pope, and the English Cardinall Doctor Allen, a notable Arch-papist, where I was often examined, but finding nothing by me, they let me passe, and vnderstanding that I had bene a captiue long time in Turke, gaue me .xxv. crownes. And before I went out of Rome, I was againe taken by the English Colledge, & put there into the helpe house thre dayes, with a soles coats on my backe, halfe blew, halfe pallowe, and a cockescombe with thre belles on my head, from whence I was holpen by meanes of an Englishman whom I found there, and presented my petition and cause to the Pope: who againe set me at libertie. From thence I departed to Naples, where I met with a Genowis, who apprehended me and brought me there before the vice-Roy, saying I was a man of great knowledge and an English spie. Then I was committed to a darke dungeon xvi. dayes, which time they secretly made enquiry where I had line before, what my wordes and behauiour had bene while I was there, but they could finde nothing by me.

Thrice had I the strappado, hoisted by backward with my hands bound behinde me, which stroke all the ioynts in my armes out of ioynt, and then constrained to drinke salte water and quicklime, and then fine Lawne or Callico thrust down my throat and pluckt by againe ready to pluck my hart out of my belly, all to make me to confesse that I was an English spie. After this, there were foure barde boyles prepared to quarter me, and I was still threated to die except I would confesse some thing to my harme.

Thus seauen moneths I endured in this miserie, and yet they could finde no cause against me, then I wrote to the Vice-Roy to do me iustice, he did write to the King of Spaine to know what should be done with me: whereupon the King of Spaine wrote that I should be employed in a gunnery: then was I entertained, and had 35. crownes a month, and had the kings patent sealed for the same,

and



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and then understanding that three ships were comming towarde England, I departed & fled from thence with them to my natie Countrey, in the Grace of London by the helpe of one Nicholas Pottingham maister thereof. Thus came I into England with great ioy and hearts delight, both to my selfe and all my acquaintance.

The report in Rome, Naples, and all ouer Italy, in my trauell which was at such time as the Spaniards came to invade England, after I had bene released of my imprisonment, as I passed through the streets, the people of that partes asked me how I durst acknowledge my selfe to be an English man, and thereupon to daunt me, did say, that England was taken by the Spaniards, and that the Quene of England (whom God long preserve) was taken prisoner, and was comming towards Rome to doe penance: and that her highnesse was brought thither, through deserts, moist, hilly and foule places: and where plaine ground was, holes and hollow trenches were digged in the way of her Maiesties passage, to the intent that she might haue gone vp to the mid legge in oes or mire: with these speeches they did check me, and I said, that I trusted God doubtlesse would defend my Prince better, then to deliuer her into the hands of her enemies, wherefore they did greatly reuile me.

Many things I haue omitted to speake of, which I haue said and noted in the time of my trouble & my trauell. One thing did greatly comfort me which I saw long since in Sicilia, in the citie of Palermo, a thing worthy of memoire, where the right honourable the Earle of Drenford a famous man for Chivalry, at what time he trauelled into foraine Countreys, being then personally present, made there a challenge against al maner of persons whatsoever, & at al maner of weapons, as Turniments, Barriours with Horse and armour, to fight and combat with any whatsoever in the defence of his Prince and countrey: for which he was

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verie highly commended, and yet no man durst be so hardy to encounter with him, so that al Italy ouer, he is acknowledged the onely Chiuallier and Noble man of England. This title they giue vnto him as worthly deserved.

Moreouer, in the land of Egypt nere to the River of Nillo, within fixe miles of the gran Caer. There are seauen Mountaines builded on the out side, like vnto the point of a Diamand, which Mountaines were builded in King Pharaos time to keepe corne in, and they are Mountaines of great strength. It is said that they were builded about that time when Ioseph did lade home his brethrens Alles with corne, in the time of the great dearth mentioned in the scripture. At which time all their corne laye in those Mountaines.

In the River of Nillo, there is long fishes of tennie, or twelue foote long, which swimmeth nere the Shore, they are called the fishes of King Pharaos, they are like vnto a Dolphin. These fishes are so subtle, that swimming nere the Shore side, they will pull men or women suddenly into the river and deuoure them.

In the Citie of the gran Caer, the houses are of a very old building, all of Lime and Stone, and in most of the houses the rofes are covered with fine golde, in a very workemany sort.

In Egypt there is small store of water, because it neuer raineth in that Country, so that their water is very dangerous to drinke. They haue no springs at all in that country, and yet there falleth such a dew euery night, as both refresh and keepe their beaues and plants in due sort, and makes them spring very fruitfully.

The Citie of Damasco is very fruitfull and greatly replenished with all maner of fruites whatsoeuer, as Bombgranades, Oranges, Limons, Apples, Peares, Plumbes, Scapes, and all other like fruites.

The Turkes are a people that at some time they will attempt



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attempt to doe wonderfull thinges, as going vpon Ropes, and thrusting their swords in their naked flesh, and strike their swords in their flesh like vnto a Scabbard: and many other thinges of great daunger.

In Turkey no man may strike the gran Cady, that is their chiefest Iudge, if any man doe strike him, he loseth his right arme for his labour, without redemption.

At my coming ouer into England from Rome, I was faine to steale away, being then retained in yearely fee to the King of Spaine, to be one of his chiefest Gunners. And if the Ship wherein I came ouer, had bin taken, both they and I my selfe had dyed for that offence.

The old City of Ierusalem, is a very desolate place, nothing to be seene but a little of the olde walles which is yet remaining, and all the rest is grasse, mosse, and weedes, like to a peece of ranke or moist ground. They haue no tillage in that partes.

The City of Ierusalem where the Temple standeth, is almost a mile from the olde walles of Ierusalem: it is of a very olde building, and there standeth the olde reliques preserved and kept as monuments of great treasure.

Now to retorne where I left off, and declare vnto you wherein I employed my selfe since my entering into England: here I visited my friends from May till Nouember, and then departed into France, where I had entertainment at the hands of the renowned King and Captaine of this age, Henry of Burbon King of France and Navarre, who receiued me into pay, and appoynted me his maister gunner in the field.

So that vpon Ashwednesday last, at his most renowned battell fought on the plain of Saint Andrew neere Dyeur. I was in seruice vnder him, where I gaue three charges vpon the enemy, and they in stead thereof, gaue vs fiftene shotte, and yet God be thanked preuailed not against vs.

Where were we constrained to make Bulwarkes of the

dead

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death bootes of our enemies & horses / where for my paines  
taking that day the King greatly commended me; and ho-  
nourable rewarded me. But soon after my first arrivall  
in France, I was hated by some lewde Gunners, whoe  
saying that I should haue the title to be master Gunner in  
France practised against me and gaue me payson in drinke  
that night: which thing when the King vnderstood, he  
gaue order to the Gentylman of Deepe, that his physician  
should presently see vnto me, who gaue me speedily Ant-  
roynes home to drinke, and there, by God and the Kings  
good meanes, I was againe restored to my former health.  
Thus haue you heard the manner of my cruell and grie-  
uous



VV ebbe his trauailes.

uous trauaile, my misery, slavery, and crueltie which  
I haue suffered therein, the maner of some old ornaments &  
the customes of such as dwell in foraine nations farre off,  
and in places where our Saviour and his Apostles were  
resident, and preached vpon the earth: my seruice done vn-  
der the great Turke of Persia, Tartaria, Grecia, and  
places of seruice: I omit herein my seruice at the taking  
of Tunny, and what I did in the Royle vnder Don Iohn  
de Austria: and many other thinges which I could here  
discouer vnto you, onely let this suffice, that I shall be glad,  
and doe daily desire that I may be imployed in some such  
seruice as may be profitable to my Prince and Country.

FINIS.

